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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/917,947	07/31/2001	Guido Kersten	KERS3001/JEK	1529

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EXAMINER

KANG, INSUN

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2193

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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06/05/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/917,947

Applicant(s)

KERSTEN ET AL.

Examiner

Insun Kang

Art Unit

2193

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 February 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2 and 4-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, and 4-7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to the Appeal Brief filed 2/20/2007.
2. In view of the appeal brief filed on 2/20/2007, prosecution is hereby reopened. New grounds of rejection are introduced below. To avoid abandonment of the application, appellant must exercise one of the following two options:

(1) file a reply under 37 CFR 1.111 (if this Office action is non-final) or a reply under 37 CFR 1.113 (if this Office action is final); or, (2) request reinstatement of the appeal. If reinstatement of the appeal is requested, such request must be accompanied by a supplemental appeal brief, but no new amendments, affidavits (37 CFR 1.130, 1.131 or 1.132) or other evidence are permitted.

The previous office action has been withdrawn. Claims 1, 2, and 4-7 are pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1, 2, and 4-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mazur (US Patent 5,909,502).

Per claim 1:

Mazur discloses:

- A bank note processing machine comprising (i.e. "currency handling machines," col. 1 lines 5-10)
- sensors ("magnetic sensing or optical sensing," col. 1 lines 18-39),
- a transport system ("Bill transport mechanism," see Fig 1) including a singling unit ("Bill separating station," Fig . 1)
- and at least one stacking unit ("Bill stacking station," Fig. 1),
- an input/output device (see the Bill accepting station/output unit, Fig. 1),
- and a control device with an associated memory which controls the elements of the bank note processing machine by means of software and/or data stored in the memory (i.e. "loading software into a currency discrimination machine. A resident memory within the machine contains an initial software code to be executed by the central processing unit...The initial software code includes operational control software and a first set of master characteristic patterns corresponding to the different denominations of bills to be evaluated by the currency discrimination machine," col. 2 lines 18-30; see fig 1)
- an interface which makes it possible to couple memory systems of different kinds to the bank note processing machine in order to alter, supplement or replace the software and/or data stored in the memory (i.e. "connector interface compatible with the Personal Computer Memory Card International Association (PCMCIA) industry standards," col. 8 lines 10-22; "PCMCIA-compatible ...receptacle for receiving a

Art Unit: 2193

flash card,” col. 8 lines 25-40, which explains that the PCMCIA interface enables to couple any memory system compatible according to PCMCIA).

Mazur does not explicitly teach that the memory system has a drive and a storage medium, which are suitable for optical and/or magnetic recording. However, Mazur teaches that “similar to the resident memory, the flash card memory need not be a flash memory but may be comprised of any of several other types of memories known in the art (col. 7 lines 62-67; col. 9 lines 5-10).” It would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art to modify Mazur’s disclosed system to add a certain memory system consisting of a drive and a storage medium such as a hard disk drive, Iomega’s Click Drive etc known prior to 1999 to couple to the PCMCIA compatible interface in Mazur to enable such a memory system to be used as an alternative if desired. The modification would be obvious because one having ordinary skill in the art would be motivated to use a memory system having a drive and a storage medium such as a hard disk drive, Click Drive etc for lower cost or simply for user preference.

Mazur further discloses:

- wherein the transport system transports single bank notes singled by the singling unit along the sensors to the at least one stacking unit according to an evaluation of data obtained by the sensors by the control device (i.e. “Accepted bills are acted upon by a bill separating station 14 which functions to pick out or separate one bill at a time for being sequentially relayed by a bill transport mechanism 16...across an optical scanhead 18 where the currency denomination of the bill is scanned, identified and counted. The scanned bill is then transported to a bill

stacking station 20," col. 3 lines 41-60; The initial software code includes operational control software and a first set of master characteristic patterns corresponding to the different denominations of bills to be evaluated by the currency discrimination machine," col. 2 lines 18-30; col. 4 lines 52-67; see fig 2) as claimed.

Per claim 2:

The rejection of claim 1 is incorporated, and further, Mazur teaches:

- wherein that the interface is a standardized interface, in particular according to PCMCIA (i.e. col. 8 lines 13-40) as claimed.

Per claim 4:

The rejection of claim 1 is incorporated, and further, Mazur teaches:

- wherein the memory has a nonvolatile area, and after coupling of the memory system to the interface the software and/or data stored in the memory system are stored in the nonvolatile area (i.e. col. 7 lines 53-67; which discloses a nonvolatile resident memory) as claimed.

Per claim 5:

The rejection of claim 1 is incorporated, and further, Mazur teaches:

- wherein that the memory has a volatile area, and after coupling of the memory system to the interface the software and/or data stored in the memory system are stored in the volatile area (i.e. col. 6 lines 10-20) as claimed.

Art Unit: 2193

Per claim 6:

The rejection of claim 1 is incorporated, and further, Mazur teaches:

- wherein data obtained in the bank note processing machine during operation are stored in the memory system (i.e. col. 7 lines 53-67; col. 8 lines 13-40) as claimed.

Per claim 7:

The rejection of claim 1 is incorporated, and further, Mazur teaches:

- wherein the software and/or data stored in the memory system are stored in encoded form, and the controller is set up to decode the encoded software and/or data (i.e. col. 8 lines 40-58) as claimed.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Insun Kang whose telephone number is 571-272-3724. The examiner can normally be reached on M-R 6:30-5 PM.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, MENG AI AN can be reached on 571-272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair->

Art Unit: 2193

direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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